



## Russian Fairy Tales, Folk Tales and Fables

Read Russian fairy tales from The Russian Garland as well as from authors like Robert Nisbet Bain and Alexandar Afanasyev. [View entire list of Russian fairy tales.](#)



"It was clear that her fascination still worked upon the hearts of the prisoners." Illustration by Frank Papes, published in The Russian Story Book by Richard Wilson (1916), MacMillan

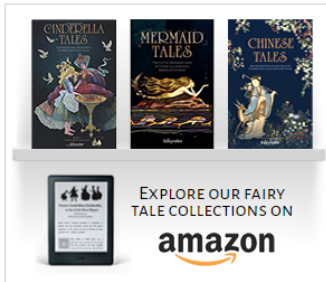
About: Russian fairy tales are deeply rooted history in Slavic Mythology. They are vibrant, riveting and poetic tales of gods and demons, heroes and witches. Pagan slavic religion had deities for everything, such as water and household spirits; these stories for children taught people about manners, traditions, and warned against natural dangers.

Russian fairy tales nearly saw their extinction in the wake of Soviet rule because communist proponents found folklore detrimental to furthering their ideals. However, a man, Maxim Gorky, stressed the importance and artistic value of the country's folklore, and convinced Soviet leaders that fairy tales were, in fact, in line with communistic beliefs, and

would help foster patriotism and support a burgeoning soviet society. Because of Gorky's efforts, the 1920s are considered the Golden Age of Russian Folklore, as research and preservation efforts were expanded to increase the country's collection of fairy tales and folk tales. Many new writers took the stage and wrote contemporary folklore that extolled political leaders, like Stalin and Lenin, and imparted communist ideals and morals. In this way, Russia's folklore was not only a means to maintain tradition and impart values and morals to a community, but also a means of distributing soviet propaganda to the masses.

Russian fairy tale heroes and Slavic gods continue to be depicted in the modern arts of Russia, and many holidays are held annually to celebrate their favorite heroes. Though Russia adopted Christianity in the 10th century, and tried to replace Slavic gods with Christian icons, the heroes of lore persisted and could never be entirely eradicated. Russia has such a wide and rich collection of folklore due largely to folklorist [Alexander Afanasyev](#), who published more than 600 Russian folk tales and fairy tales, and thanks to British scholar, [Robert Steele](#), who gathered and anthologized numerous folk tales from the region into the fairy tale collection known as [The Russian Garland](#). Poet [Alexander Pushkin](#) is a beloved Russian author who published verse based on fairy tales and folk tales from Russia.

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### Most Popular Authors & Collections



Andrew Lang's Fairy Books ▸  
 Aesop's Fables ▸ Brothers Grimm  
 ▸ Charles Skinner ▸ Joseph Jacobs  
 ▸ Hans Christian Andersen ▸ La Fontaine  
 ▸ Thomas Frederick Crane  
 ▸ The Chinese Fairy Book ▸ Elsie Spicer Eells  
 ▸ Parker Fillmore ▸ Mabel Cook Cole  
 ▸ Carl Sandburg  
 ▸ Elizabeth Willis De Huff ▸ K. Langloh Parker  
 ▸ Flora Annie Steel  
 ▸ A. H. Wratlaw ▸ William Elliot Griffis  
 ▸ Elphinstone Dayrell ▸ Sophie Ségur

[View all Authors and Collections](#)

### Most Popular Fairy Tales

**A**

Alenoushka and her Brother

**K**

King Longbeard

**R**

The Russian Garland

King Kojata

**B** The Book of Magic  
The Bear, the Dog and the Cat  
Babouscka  
Baba Yaga  
Baba Yaga (Arthur Ransome version)

**C** The Christening in the Village  
The Cat Who Became Head-  
Forester  
A Chapter of Fish

**D** The Dun Cow  
The Devil and Gipsy  
Dimian the Peasant

**E** The Enchanted Princess  
Emelyan, the Fool

**F** The Fire-Bird, the Horse of  
Power, and the Princess  
Vasilissa  
The Flying Ship  
The Frost, the Sun and the  
Wind  
Father Frost  
Frost  
The Fool of the World and the  
Flying Ship  
The Frog-Tsarevna

**G** The Golden Fish  
The Golden Mountain  
God Knows How to Punish Man  
The Good Children  
God and the Devil  
Go I Know Not Whither—Fetch  
I Know Not What  
The Golden Cockerel

**H** The Hairy Man  
The Hunter and His Wife  
The History of Dwarf Long  
Nose  
The Hut in the Forest  
Huntsman the Unlucky

**I** Ivan Kruchina  
Ivanoushka the Simpleton  
Iliya of Murom and the Robber  
Nightingale

**J** The Judgment of Shemyaka

**L** The Lute Player  
The Lime-Tree  
Little Rolling-Pea  
The Language of the Birds  
The Little Daughter of the  
Snow  
Little Master Misery

**M** Morozko  
The Muzhichek-As-Big-As-  
Your-Thumb-with-Moustaches-  
Seven-Versts-Long.  
The Muddy Cart  
The Mild Man and his  
Cantankerous Wife

**N** The Norka

**P** The Snake and the Princess  
Prince Ivan, the Witch Baby,  
and the Little Sister of the Sun

**R** The Renowned Hero, Bova  
Korolevich and the Princess  
Drushnevná

**S** Spirit Treasures  
Story of Little Simpleton  
Salt  
The Story of the Tsarevich Ivan,  
and of the Harp that Harped  
Without a Harper  
The Story of King Frost  
The Story of Gore-Gorinskoe  
Seven Simeons  
The Shroud (Russian)  
Story of Lyubim Tsarevich and  
the Winged Wolf  
Story of the Most Noble Self-  
Playing Harp  
The Seven Brothers Simeon  
Story of Ivan, the Peasant's Son  
Story of the Golden Mountain  
Sadko  
Story of the Duck with Golden  
Eggs  
The Snow-Child  
Story of Bulat the Brave  
Companion  
Story of Prince Malandrach and  
the Princess Salikalla  
Story of Gol Voyansky  
Story of a Shoemaker and his  
Servant Prituitshkin  
Spring in the Forest  
Story of Vasilisa with the  
Golden Tress, and of Ivan the  
Pea  
Story of Prince Peter with the



Cinderella ✦ The Forest Bride: The  
Story of a Little Mouse Who Was a  
Princess ✦ Little Red Riding Hood  
✦ The Dragon-Princess ✦ Ashey  
Pelt (Irish Version of Cinderella) ✦  
Little Saddle Slut (Greek version of  
Cinderella) ✦ The Boy Who Wanted  
More Cheese ✦ The Fox and the  
Tiger ✦ The Boy Who Became a  
Stone ✦ East of the Sun and West of  
the Moon ✦ The Little Girl and the  
Winter Whirlwinds ✦ A Legend of  
Confucius ✦ The Clever Cat ✦ The  
Arabian Nights ✦ Bamboo and the  
Turtle ✦ A Clever Thief ✦ The  
Flood Story ✦ Little Red-Cap (Little  
Red Riding Hood, Grimms' Version)  
✦ Cinderella, or the Little Glass  
Slipper ✦ Aladdin and the Wonderful  
Lamp

[View all Fairy Tales](#)

## Most Popular Regions



North American ✦ Greek ✦  
German ✦ French ✦ Native  
American ✦ Scandinavian ✦ Nordic  
✦ Indian ✦ Italian ✦ Danish ✦  
English ✦ Chinese ✦ Russian ✦  
Japanese ✦ Philippine ✦ Arabic ✦  
Irish ✦ Portuguese ✦ Czechoslovak  
✦ Australian ✦ Slavic ✦ Scottish  
✦ Celtic ✦ African ✦ Nigerian ✦  
Ukrainian ✦ Swedish ✦ Brazilian  
✦ Armenian ✦ Norwegian

[View all Regions](#)

Golden Keys, and the Princess  
Magilene

Sila Tsarevich and Ivashka with  
the White Smock

The Stolen Turnips, the Magic  
Tablecloth, the Sneezing Goat,  
and the Wooden Whistle

Story of the Knight Yaroslav  
Lasarevich and the Princess  
Anastasia

The Soldier and Death

**T** A Tale of the Dead

The Three Men of Power --  
Evening, Midnight and Sunrise

To Your Good Health!

The Tsarevna Frog

The Tale of Tsar Saltan, of His  
Son the Renowned and Mighty  
Bogatyr Prince Gvidon  
Saltanovich, and of the  
Beautiful Princess-Swan

The Tale of the Silver Saucer  
and the Transparent Apple

**W** The Wood Sprite

Who Lived in the Skull?

The White Duck

The Witch and Her Servants

The Witch

The Wonderful Boys

Woe Bogotir


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